Colombo in January 1991, the two sides decided to take steps for the establishment of an Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Commission, chaired by the respective Foreign Ministers on an alternative basis.

The Joint Commission to begin with will have two Sub-Commissions dealing respectively with trade, finance and investment and with social, cultural and educational matters. A preparatory Senior Officials Meeting held in Delhi in April 1991 finalised the draft Agreement for the Joint Commission. The Agreement is expected to be signed during the Sri Lanka Foreign Minister's forthcoming visit to Delhi towards the end of this month.

Inclusion of Nepali in the Eighth Schedule of the constitution

637. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States/Union Territories whose Legislative Assemblies have passed resolution recommending the case of inclusion of Nepali Language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution;

(b) the dates of passing of such resolutions by these Assemblies; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken by the Union Government for inclusion of Nepali language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) Sikkim, Tripura and West Bengal.

(b) Such resolutions have been passed by Sikkim Legislative Assambly on 23rd September, 1982, Tripura Legislative Assembly on 28th June, 1978 and West Bengal Legislative Assembly on 2nd July, 1977.

(c) The Government is of the view that inclusion of more languages in the Eighth Schedule would create other repurcussions and reactions. However, it will continue to be the endeavour of the Government to develop the cultural and literary heritage of all the languages irrespective of their being included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution or not.

Annual Funds sanctioned to ICAR Sikkim

638. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of fund sanctioned for ICAR annually during 1989-90 and 1990-91;

(b) the percentage of total funds allotted to ICAR, Sikkim branch during this period; and

(c) the achievements made by this branch?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Sir, the funds sanctioned ICAR during 1989-90 and 1990-91 were Rs. 253.69 crores and Rs. 319-71 crores respectively.

(b) The percentage of funds allotted to the ICAR units in Sikkim was 0.24 during 1989-90 and 0.21 during 1990-91.

(c) Twelve high yielding varieties including 5 in rice, one in wheat two in maize, three in mustard and a fodder oat variety for green forage have been developed High yielding varieties have also been recommended for vegetable crops like fresh bean, pea, bhindi and radish and chemical control of leaf blotch disease has been achieved for Large Cardamom variety "Pink Golsey" yielding 1.32 q/ha. Maize and soyabean/ricebean forage inter-cropping system has been developed giving an yield of 412 q/ha green fodder. Germplasm of exotic and indigenous fieldpea has been evaluated.